

have basically done everything right. They balanced their budget. They have a rainy-day fund. Yet they are still struggling to prepare for the future because even a healthy budget can't cover the cost of inflation. Supplies are too expensive. Raw materials are too expensive. Pipe for the water project is up 400 percent. Can't get transformers for utility projects. Can't keep all of the emergency vehicles and the schoolbuses and the county road department—those vehicles running because of the cost of diesel and what it has done.

What we know is that many things are just too expensive to afford. Money for luxuries? No. We have to keep the doors open, the lights on, keep them heated, and keep the buses running.

Everything from electrical equipment to parts for emergency vehicles comes with a big price tag. But there is something that Joe Biden and my Democratic colleagues could do about this. They could do it if they wanted to, if they chose to. It is amazing that they have chosen not to do this.

If the Democrats continue to spend, inflation will continue to rise. Economic growth will stagnate. The debt burden will become so large that future generations will never be able to escape it.

You know that debt burden right now is about \$95,000 per U.S. citizen? \$95,000. I have a grandchild due this year. When that baby is born, he is going to have his share—\$95,000—of our Nation's debt. Per taxpayer, that comes out to about a quarter million dollars. I would say: Is that moral, is it immoral to pass this on to our children and grandchildren?

This debt burden will be very difficult for future generations to escape. And the people who have already lost so much to this Big Government will continue to suffer. For 2 years, the Biden administration has appeared to ignore that type of suffering.

Now, I say "ignored" because it would be impossible for them to not know how obvious and unhappy the American people are with this impact of inflation and the cost of living on them every day. A Reuters poll recently released just before President Biden delivered his State of the Union Address shows that 65 percent of Americans think that this country is on the wrong track. A year ago, 58 percent of Americans believed we were on the wrong track. So it is safe to say that not only are they unhappy, they see this downward spiral that Joe Biden and the Democrats have thrown them into. The only way out of this is to get our fiscal house in order. And that does include cutting spending.

Last week, I introduced legislation to cut Federal spending by 1 percent. That is one penny out of every dollar. Every Agency should be able to save a penny out of their budget. And if they can do that 1 penny, maybe they could do 2 pennies; maybe they could do 5 pennies. We could pass those bills this

month to cut 1 percent, 2 percent, or 5 percent out of the budget. Putting politics aside, it is going to take making certain that we prioritize fiscal responsibility. The frustration that the American people feel with what has happened in this building on the Democrats' watch doesn't compare to the pain the people in this country feel when they explain to their kids why there is less food in their lunch boxes this week, why there are different food items on the table when they come home every night. But 13-percent food inflation—that is tough. That is tough on families. You couple that with the amount of inflation at the gas pump and life becomes incredibly expensive.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF CINDY K. CHUNG

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Cindy Chung to a Pennsylvania seat on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Chung has worked in public service for two decades and is an accomplished litigator. She received degrees from Yale University and Columbia Law School before clerking for Judge Myron Thompson on the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama.

Ms. Chung began her career as a prosecutor handling public corruption and other matters in the New York County District Attorney's Office before joining the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, where she prosecuted human trafficking and criminal civil rights violations, including the first case prosecuted under the Shepard-Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act. She then joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania where, for more than 7 years, she handled a range of criminal matters. In 2021, President Biden nominated Ms. Chung to serve as a U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and the Senate unanimously confirmed her to that role. As U.S. Attorney, Ms. Chung has prioritized the prosecution of hate crimes and violent crimes.

As a practicing attorney, Ms. Chung has appeared in both State and Federal court and has tried 24 cases to verdict. She has significant experience in the courtroom and was unanimously rated "well qualified" by the American Bar Association. Ms. Chung has deep ties to the Pennsylvania legal community and enjoys bipartisan support, having received positive blue slips from her home State Senators for her nomination in the 117th Congress, and a bipartisan vote out of committee. When confirmed, she will make history as the first AAPI judge on the Third Circuit.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the Chung nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

VOTE ON CHUNG NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Chung nomination?

Mr. CARPER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 9 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murkowski	Welch
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Ossoff	

NAYS—44

Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Vance
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Paul	

NOT VOTING—6

Barrasso	Padilla	Sullivan
Heinrich	Sanders	Warnock

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby